Sale of PDS Kerosene in Black Market

†155. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a major portion of Kerosene of Public Distribution System is sold in black market; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to curb such black marketing of Kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) Public Distribution System (PDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of Government of India and the State Governments while the Central Government is responsible for procuring and making available to the States the PDS commodities, the distribution of commodities including kerosene within the State and its monitoring is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. To prevent diversion of kerosene the Government has introduced blue dyeing of kerosene distributed under PDS and furfural doping of kerosene at depots / terminals so that the same is not used for adulteration.

Supply of Wheat and Rice to Orissa

156. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken to increase the supply of food grains particularly rice and wheat, to Orissa to meet the requirements after the super cyclone/floods in the State; and

(b) what was the demand and supply position of aforesaid commodities during the last two years?

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.